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To: Minister for the Environment
CC: Transpower New Zealand Ltd

**SUBMISSION IN RELATION TO THE NOTICES OF REQUIREMENT
AND/OR APPLICATIONS FOR RESOURCE CONSENT LODGED BY
TRANSPOWER NEW ZEALAND LTD FOR THE NORTH ISLAND GRID
UPGRADE PROJECT**

I, Mary Jacqueline Tarbitt of Willowbrook Farm, Redman Road, RD3 Papakura, Auckland, Telephone Number: 09 292 4264 am making this submission on all notices of requirement and applications for resource consent filed by Transpower.

The reasons for my submission against Transpowers proposal are as follows:

In my opinion, the proposed transmission line is not needed! Published demand growth projections from the Electricity Commission do not justify such construction. The scale and capacity of this proposed 400kv capable line is at odds with the expected requirements for transmission capacity into Auckland to meet demand growth in the next 40 years.

The potential new generation capacity likely to be built in the Auckland region in the next 40 years has also been grossly underestimated in order to justify the construction of this line.

Better equal benefit alternatives to Transpowers proposed line are available that have a much reduced environmental impact. Such alternatives as more generation in Auckland, Duplexing and reconductoring of the Whakamaru A, B, and C lines, use of undergrounding of HVAC lines, and consideration of new conventional small scale 220kv transmission lines should be considered.

I would oppose any transmission line such as the one Transpower wishes to construct being built on a 65 metre wide easement. As a minimum, a 600 metre wide easement free of houses, farm buildings and workplaces should be required as a precautionary principle in order to reduce health risks from EMF emissions and ionized particle emissions that will emanate from this line which have proven to cause diseases such as childhood leukemia.

The gardens at our property Willowbrook Farm are on the list of special gardens to visit in Auckland. Many garden clubs, charitable organizations and architectural groups have had the pleasure of walking through 3 acres of water lily ponds, perennial gardens, established trees and iris gardens. If Transpower are allowed to proceed with erecting 70 meter high pylons on our boundary a garden of national significance will be jeopardized. People will not want to visit and the vista will be polluted.

Willowbrook Farm also has a thriving lavender business well known at the Clevedon Farmers Market, gift shops around New Zealand and overseas. New Zealand lavender is the purist in the world – lack of pollution! Why should our family be subjected to the Health risks associated with pylons?

Furthermore, consideration as to the effects such transmission lines may have on farming activities and farm livestock needs to be addressed particularly in relation to animals destined for the human food chain.

As a country that promotes itself both at home and overseas as being clean, green and caring for the environment, how could we sanction Transpowers proposal to perpetrate what could only be described as an act of environmental terrorism by allowing them to build 70 metre high towers up the country. There has to be a better way!

I seek the following decision from the Board of Enquiry.

That the application for Notices of Requirement and Resource Consents be denied and rejected in their entirety.

I explicitly do not want the Board of Enquiry to approve any of the applications with any form of variance or subject to any conditions.

I wish to appear before the Board of Enquiry preferably, at a public hearing venue near to my place of residence.

Mary J. Tarbitt

1st October 2007